

**In the claims:**

Please amend Claims 1 to read as follows:

1. (currently Amended) A flame retardant, halogen-free polymer composition comprising a blend of

(1) ethylene vinyl acetate carbon monoxide terpolymer containing 30-90% by weight ethylene, 10-70% by weight vinyl acetate and 1-40% by weight carbon monoxide;

(2) an ethylene vinyl acetate or polyolefin selected from the group consisting of (a) ethylene vinyl acetate containing 25-90% by weight ethylene and 10-75% by weight vinyl acetate, (b) a linear low density polyethylene, (c) a low density polyethylene, (d) a very low density polyethylene and (e) a high density polyethylene; and mixtures thereof;

(3) an ethylene vinyl acetate or polyolefin selected from the group consisting of (a) ethylene vinyl acetate containing 25-90% by weight ethylene and 10-75% by weight vinyl acetate, (b) a linear low density polyethylene, (c) a low density polyethylene, (d) a very low density polyethylene and (e) a high density polyethylene; and mixtures thereof; each of which is grafted with 0.05-3 % by weight of a carboxylic acid or an anhydride thereof; and

(4) aluminum trihydrate;

wherein component (1) comprises 5-15% by weight of the blend, component (2) comprises 10-20% by weight of the blend component (3) comprises 3-10% by weight of the blend, and component (4) comprises 60-70% by weight of the blend and wherein the Limited Oxygen Index as measured according to ASTM 2863 is in the range of 35 to 38.